

# Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

## The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### WHY THERE SHOULD BE SILENCE IN CHURCH

Holy Mother Church proclaims it to be so. Paragraph 45 of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) states: "Even before the celebration itself, it is commendable that silence be observed in the Church, in the Sacristy, in the Vesting Room, and in adjacent areas, so that all may dispose themselves to carry out the Sacred Action in a devout and fitting manner." It is disrespectful. Talking in Church is considered disrespectful of Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament. We are in the House of God, in the Presence of God Himself in the Tabernacle, not in a coffee shop. All our thoughts and words should be directed to Him.

It teaches disrespect. When children see adults talking, giggling, and laughing in Church, especially before, during and after the Holy Mass, instead of in prayer or in silent meditation it teaches them that it is acceptable behavior, thus further eroding respect for the Blessed Sacrament in the next generation. And it is hypocritical for parents to "shush" their children while they themselves continue to talk.

It is the Sacred and Holy of House of Almighty God. It is the Lord's Sacred House, which Jesus Christ taught was "a house of prayer" (Matthew 21:13) and thus should be used according to its purpose. It is unholy to turn the Holy House of God into a man-made place of socializing or gossiping. The Holy House of God, where dwells the Real and True Presence of God, must be treated with ongoing reverence. Talking in Church is a violation of justice against Almighty God, for Whom we should have the greatest reverence.

It is selfish. Talking while in the Church is a selfish act and it is a violation of the virtue of justice against neighbors who are trying to pray and meditate.

It is a violation of the virtue of Charity. Talking in Church is a violation of charity, since as Christians we should be going "out of ourselves" to look after others first. Unnecessary talk in the Church is a total disrespect for one's brothers and sisters in Christ who are trying to pray, and against the faithful who seek to grow in their spiritual lives. Talking in Church falls short of manifesting love, charity, kindness and self-control, which are fruits of the Most Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22) if a person crassly and knowingly disregards others trying to pray, or worst of all does so with malice or contempt, it could even be a mortal sin against charity.

**Pray for a return to respect and reverence in the Holy House of God**

### PROPER ATTIRE FOR THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

**Short pants, tank tops, flip flops, and tattered clothing are inappropriate for Sacred Worship of the Almighty Triune God.** Thank you for cooperating in the effort to teach and return to modesty and reverence in the Holy House of Almighty God. Please be attentive to children's attire; we must teach the youth the importance of Sacred Reverence. Adults and children must never wear revealing tops, shorts, or tattered clothing while in God's Holy House. **"Certain fashions will be introduced which will offend our Lord very much..."**

**Our Lady of Fatima in 1917**

**Monday – January 7<sup>th</sup>** – 5:00 PM – Rosary for Our Country  
– 5:45 PM – Choir Practice  
**Tuesday – January 8<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 AM Mass – No Mass  
**Wednesday – January 9<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 AM Mass – No Mass  
– 1:00 PM – 1<sup>st</sup> Rosary Making Class  
**Thursday – January 10<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 AM Mass – No Mass  
**Friday – January 11<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 AM Mass – No Mass

**Saturday – January 12<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 PM Mass – Aubrey Soileau, Elmer & Hazel Brooks, Brian T. Ortego, McKenzie Dupre, Louis Stephens Family, Claude & Lois Blanchard, Rose Huguet, Lionel & Belle Lafleur, Mike Wartelle, Clyde Doucet, Poke Courville & Deceased Family, J. Bailey,

**Sunday – December 13<sup>th</sup> The Baptism of the Lord**

7:00 AM Mass – Shirley & Ruth D. Soileau, Carlton J. & Mona F. Sylvester, Raymond Dupre, Cline & Frankie Fontenot,  
9:00 AM Mass – For the People  
10:00 AM CCD  
11:00 AM (Holy Trinity)



### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

An "epiphany" is an appearance. In today's readings, with their rising stars, splendorous lights and mysteries revealed, the face of the child born on Christmas day appears. Herod, in today's Gospel, asks the chief priests and scribes where the Messiah is to be born. The answer Matthew puts on their lips says much more, combining two strands of Old Testament promise – one revealing the Messiah to be from the line of David (see **2 Samuel 2:5**), the other predicting "a ruler of Israel" who will "shepherd his flock" and whose "greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth" (see **Micah 5:1-3**). Those promises of Israel's king ruling the nations resound also in today's Psalm. The psalm celebrates David's son, Solomon. His kingdom, we sing, will stretch "to the ends of the earth," and the world's kings will pay Him homage. That's the scene too in today's First Reading, as nations stream from the East, bearing "gold and frankincense" for Israel's king. The Magi's pilgrimage in today's Gospel marks the fulfillment of God's promises. The Magi, probably Persian astrologers, are following the star that Balaam predicted would rise along with the ruler's staff over the house of Jacob (see **Numbers 24:17**).

Laden with gold and spices, their journey evokes those made to Solomon by the Queen of Sheba and the "kings of the earth" (see **1 Kings 10:2,25; 2 Chronicles 9:24**). Interestingly, the only other places where frankincense and myrrh are mentioned together are in songs about Solomon (see **Song of Songs 3:6, 4:6,14**). One greater than Solomon is here (see **Luke 11:31**). He has come to reveal that all peoples are "co-heirs" of the royal family of Israel, as today's Epistle teaches. His manifestation forces us to choose: Will we follow the signs that lead to Him as the wise Magi did? Or will we be like those priests and the scribes who let God's words of promise become dead letters on an ancient page?

\*Article written by Scott Hahn



### REAL MEN PRAY THE ROSARY

An apostolate based in southern Texas called Real Men Pray the Rosary (RMPTR) promotes

praying the Rosary "in the light of Scripture, in harmony with the liturgy, and in the context of your daily lives" Founded in March 2009 by David Calvillo, a lawyer in McAllen, and his wife Valerie, RMPTR has flourished online – over 87,000 "likes" for its Facebook page to date – and continues as a vibrant movement with the publication of *Real Men Pray the Rosary: A Practical Guide to a Powerful Prayer*. RMPTR serves as a resource and as a catalyst to encourage praying the Rosary and for honoring our Blessed Mother. Check out their Face Book page Real Men Pray the Rosary and webpage <http://realmenpraytherosary.org/> for more information.

1/12/2019 (4 PM)

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Evelina Soileau  
Jane Thibodeaux  
Ruth Montgomery

#### READER

Carl Fontenot

#### USHERS

Marcus Decou  
Merlin Valin  
Volunteer

Raynold Soileau

#### ALTAR SERVER

Matthew Vidrine

1/13/2019 (7AM)

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Brenda Baque  
Joey Bordelon  
Sheila Carrier

#### READER

Shelbi Baham

#### USHERS

Pauline Vidrine  
Donnie Vidrine  
Phillip Dardeau

Nicky Dejean

#### ALTAR SERVER

Elliot Landreneau

1/13/2019 (9AM)

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Jessie Howard  
Pam Landreneau  
Jim Soileau

#### READER

Lennie Buller

#### USHERS

Mike Vidrine  
Bruce Courville  
Gregory Doucet

Benny Howard

#### ALTAR SERVER

Michael Darbonne

IMMACULATE CONCEPTIONS



ROSARY MAKERS

### ROSARY MAKING MINISTRY

The purpose of the Rosary Making Ministry is to make beaded cord rosaries, have Father bless them, and give them to ill people at the Opelousas General Hospital, prisoners at the St. Landry Parish Jail, and for the second grade communion students, at both Immaculate Conception Church and Holy Trinity. Ruth Montgomery and Pauline Vidrine will oversee the rosary making at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 to 2:30 pm beginning on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. If interested in learning how to make the rosaries and providing your help, please come to our first meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. If you have any questions, call either Pauline Vidrine (337-945-0845) or Ruth Montgomery (337-849-5612).

## GROUP ROSARY

All are invited to a group rosary every Monday at 5:00 pm in church at Immaculate Conception. Prayers will be offered for our country and an end to violence in the world. Invite your friends and family.



## LOCAL BIBLE STUDY

### *Come, Lord Jesus!*

Is a weekly journey to study and meditate on the Sunday Gospels.

We are blessed at Immaculate Conception to have three thriving Come, Lord Jesus! Groups already formed and our newest one for Parent Intercessors. Everyone is welcome and there is always room for additional people to join. Please call the office with any questions you may have. Our meeting times are as follow:

**Tuesday** afternoon at 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM – In the parish Hall  
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM – In the parish Hall

**Thursday** afternoon at 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM  
– Ms. Jane Dupre's Home Contact her at 337-945-6881 for directions

### **For Parent Intercessors & CLJ Youth**

**Wednesday** Evening from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM – Katie Fontenot's home  
Contact her at 308-3541 for directions or the Church office 826-7396

\* The youth group meets separately from the adults. If you have a teen who would like to join or just come by to see what it's all about give Katie Fontenot a call at 308-3541.



## PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY

The purpose of the Prayer Blanket Ministry is to cover the recipient in prayers. Members of this ministry sew blankets in their homes while praying for those who will be receiving them. The Prayer Blanket will be blessed by Father and is a reminder of our parish's prayer for those who receive them. Blankets can benefit those suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Jerry Mayeux

at 308-3325 or Jane Dupre at 945-6881 if you have fabric you'd like to donate, it would be appreciated. If you or a loved one would like a prayer blanket please call the ladies mentioned above or the church office.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO ARE SICK...

Connie Benoit, Jeffrey Stelly, Dr. Amy Franchebois Bairnsfather, Ray Levaha, Margaret Lafleur, Mcall Thibodeaux, Claudia Abell, Vicki Chelette, Maurice Francois, Donald Robertson, John E. Leblanc, Julie Mendel, Michelle Henry, Glenda Pitre, Liz Bourque Constantino, Charley Fruge Arnaud, Brian Olivier, Reid Latour, Emily G. Milke, Christy Stelly, Kathy & Jimmy Martin, Kim Byrd, Trent Richard. Please call the office if you have any additions or deletions to the prayer list. Remember this list is for the sick, not for those who are in need of prayer.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE PRIESTS THIS WEEK

**Sunday:** Rev. Msgr. Charles Mallet  
**Monday:** Very Rev. Msgr. W. Curtis Mallet, VG  
**Tuesday:** Rev. C. William Massie  
**Wednesday:** Rev. Kenneth Mayne  
**Thursday:** Rev. Garrett McIntyre  
**Friday:** Rev. Bert Mead, SJ  
**Saturday:** Rev. Glenn Meaux, SOLT

Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SEMINARIANS THIS WEEK

**Sunday:** Chad Peltier  
**Monday:** Connor Poirrier  
**Tuesday:** Seth Ransonet  
**Wednesday:** Michael Vidrine  
**Thursday:** Nicholas Ware  
**Friday:** Cole Zaunbrecher  
**Saturday:** Dylan Allen

Father, in your plan for our salvation you provide shepherds for your people. Fill your Church with the spirit of courage and love. Raise up worthy ministers for your altars and eager but gentle servants of the gospel. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## JANUARY DEVOTION: The Holy Name of Jesus

In Philippians 2, St Paul tells us that "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things in earth, and things under the earth and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." From the earliest days of Christianity, Christians have known the great power of Jesus' Holy Name. As the once-popular hymn commanded:

**All hail the pow'r of Jesus' Name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
And crown Him Lord of all.**

Small wonder, then, that the Church sets aside the first month of the year in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus. Through this devotion, the Church reminds us of the power of Christ's Name and encourages us to pray in His Name.

In our society, of course, we hear His Name uttered quite often but all too frequently, it is used in a curse or blasphemy. In the past, Christians would often make the Sign of the Cross when they heard Christ's Name uttered in such a manner and that's a practice that would be worthwhile to revive. What has happened to the tradition of honoring the Holy Name of Jesus?

By way of concretizing respect for the name of Jesus in a formal way the Second Council of Lyons in 1274 decreed that "at the name of Jesus every knee should bow; whenever that glorious name is recalled, especially during the sacred mysteries of the Mass, everyone should bow the knees of his heart, which he can do even by a bow of his head". The importance of honoring the holy name of Jesus is seen too in the feast of that name, which has been celebrated, at least at the local level, since the end of the 15th century. The feast was inserted into the universal calendar by Pope Innocent XIII in 1721 and is now celebrated on January 3rd. Given the widespread misuse of the names of God and Jesus today in ordinary life, as well as on television, in films and in other forms of entertainment, it is especially important to do all we can to restore respect for the name of God. Bowing our head when we pronounce or hear the name of Jesus is a good way to do this. Let us each bring it back for the very Angels in Heaven bow at the name of Jesus. And even the demons in Hell.

Also important is to make an internal act of reparation whenever we hear the name of God or Jesus blasphemed. It should hurt us that the object of our love is mistreated in this way.

### Prayer:

**JESUS**  
**Glorious name, gracious name,**  
**Name of love and of power!**  
**Through you sins are forgiven,**  
**Through you enemies are vanquished,**  
**Through you the sick are freed from their illness,**  
**Through you those suffering in trials**  
**Are made strong and cheerful.**  
**You bring honor to those who believe,**  
**You teach those who preach,**  
**You give strength to the toiler,**  
**You sustain the weary.**

**St. Bernardine of Siena, OFM**  
**Apostle of the Holy Name**



## January

### CLEANING COMPANY

Our dedicated scrubbers for the month of January include: Pam Landreneau, Betty Fisher, Ethel Landreneau, Brooke Chehotsky and Jeannette Martin. Thank you everyone! If you're interested in being on a monthly rotation cleaning crew, Please contact the office or Mrs. Ethel Landreneau.



### WELCOME NEW PARISHIONER!

Welcome to Immaculate Conception Church! We are very glad you are here and pray that you become active in our vibrant church community where we love God, one another, our community, and our world with our thoughts and actions. If you are new to the parish, please complete a registration form which can be found on our website [immaculate-conception-washington.org](http://immaculate-conception-washington.org) under "About, Contact Us" or you may come into the office. Please return the form either in the collection basket or to the parish office.

**PARISH BULLETIN INFORMATION:** Contact the bulletin editor (parish secretary) or bring information to the rectory. All information must be in by Monday. If your family or business would like to help support the bulletin by taking an ad, or remember a loved one "In Memoir" Please call: John or Peter Watson at 985-868-6804.